




6-26-1851

Letter from Augustin Hibbard to [William Hibbard] 1851 June 26

Augustin Hibbard

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/grcc>

 Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), [Demography, Population, and Ecology Commons](#), [Economics Commons](#), [Place and Environment Commons](#), [United States History Commons](#), and the [Work, Economy and Organizations Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Hibbard, Augustin, "Letter from Augustin Hibbard to [William Hibbard] 1851 June 26" (1851). *Gold Rush Life*. 8.
<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/grcc/8>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Western Americana at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Gold Rush Life by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgibney@pacific.edu.

of him at the
of March, enclosing a check for \$100, which was cashed
of the 1st, came to hand last week. That was
was the first one I had received from any
of you. Directly or indirectly, since the month of Oct.
last. I hope in future to get your letters more regu-
lar, as the Post Office in this country is no
better footing than it has been. I must not
blame you. I do not write as regular as you could wish
me to, for I labour under many inconveniences, in
my present situation, with regard to writing. I wish
that I could give you a correct idea of what
a rough life is in the mountains of California,
but I feel that I do not possess that power of
description, requisite to do so. I did intend writing
the mine in the Spring, but have decided to con-
tinue another season in them. My operations this
season will be on the same stream that they were
last. The water this season is so much lower than
it was last, that I think I stand a chance of getting
quite a few last season's worth. Still, I hold on to my
interest in them as I did. I am, my dear friend,
yours truly,
J. W. Galt

The original Company who has done so much for me
has sold another interest in a claim in the same
district. The Company is composed of nine members
and all things are not fully prepared, to work effectively
as they are taking out from three to four hundred dollars
each in a claim. I had very little in the same district that
winter, the whole winter. The weather being as fine and
dry as the finest summer I ever saw at home.
I returned to Red Bay in January and have
been doing very well since, and I hope soon to have
money enough to enable me to return my attention
to my other business, not quite so fully as
before. I had written enough to go home, but that
time is far distant yet, even, I fear I will
have made to a claim which he has taken
in that which is a bad piece of ground. I am
heart. The land of my birth, the scene of my youth,
the home of my childhood. Your last letter
has strongly stirred within me that desire which
I have to be once more among you, but that
will never be, until I shall be able to meet
some who wronged me when I left. Most as I have
feeling than I could when I left. Most as I have
suffering since. It is as nothing, compared with what
I suffered the last year I was in Montreal, when
my dear friend, my mind was easy, and I was in
what it was the most of that year. Therefore rather
than return to a subject more to do.

He had managed to keep out a good many
besides myself. by his apparent. Caution and honesty
and one night a man went into his hole. dug
a panfull of dirt. washed it, and got \$2.00 out
of it. The next morning he and another man
took the claim above the old man, where I ^{had} inten-
ded to work, and in nine days took out \$100.00.
The old man had made over \$3.000. in two
months. Circumstances like this happen
every day. One party comes and pitches their
tent. They prospect the ground around, and
find nothing, pull up stakes and are off.
Another party comes in, they sink a hole where
the others tent, stood, and find a place that
pays them, well. If you cannot go into any parts
of the mines. but you will find people continually
changing about and in every place. Some making
large raises, some making very good wages, but the
majority making but little more than expenses.
I have just heard that San Francisco
has again become the theatre of ruin and
desolation. That thirteen blocks of that ill
fated city have once ^{been reduced} more to ashes. When I was
in San Fran^{co} in its infancy I foresaw, that if it
ever became a large city, fires must prove exor-
dingly destructive. Owing to the strong winds which
are prevalent nearly all the year there. I think
in my first letter to Wm. from S. I mentioned
that the wind ~~was~~ was so strong every day that

Wm. B. Hibbard }
Montreal }
C. E. }

Yours Affectionate Brother
Augustin Hibbard

[illegible]

that the quest. Having every eye on us, we
 dollars a day. She told me that the
 him was not taken up, but that a good many
 ced it, and of course, but it said no better
 the was anything, had given into me. I did
 after running about, a week longer, and
 some and we to go and to the and I am
 old man. I found him still there, but he
 here in his eyes, that we had some as it was
 out, that the head projected at the end
 holes of men and could find a nothing and
 of found a place where he could make
 his two and for a dollars day, to let
 of a grey, peacock old man should rest upon me.
 old man with feelings of pity, promising to do as he
 in a short time I found a Carver, that would pay about
 five dollars a day, and I went to let the old man to go on about
 it. When he got to his place, I found that the old man was
 making a fine iron pot for me, that he was making that
 when he told me that he was about this hard luck, and
 that another party had taken out all the best place
 where I should have gone to mine. I had it not for long.